

NECP Goal 1 National Reflections

SIEC Presentation

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60 UASI Regions Observed

- Majority of regions completed

4-5 Person Observation Team

- Federal Contractor
- OEC Representative
- Two peer observers

Observation period typically 8-16 hours



NECP Goal 1 Involvement

Observed Six Events

- Holiday Bowl, San Diego
- Kentucky Derby, Louisville
- Memorial Day Weekend, Miami Beach
- Summerfest, Milwaukee
- 4th of July, Washington D.C.
- Major League Baseball All Star Game, Anaheim



Holiday Bowl

December 30, 2009 - San Diego / Nebraska vs. Arizona

Involved Parties: CHP, Rural/Metro Ambulance (San Diego Life Safety Services), San Diego Police and Fire, private security company.

Challenges:

- 60,000 fans - Mostly unfamiliar with the area
- Parking lot not big enough for 60,000
- Separate radio system for City and County and security company.



Kentucky Derby

Scale: 140,000 Guests; 1,500 first responders

The Derby is different than you see on TV -
Millionaire's Row; Multi-Millionaire's Row; "The Infield"

Involved Parties: Louisville Fire and Police; Yellow Ambulance; State Police; FBI; National Guard

Consolidated dispatch center (MetroSafe) - 50 consoles covers police, fire and EMS (third service) for entire county

Challenges:

- Heavy rainstorm in the area.
- Early morning power outage to entire city
- Metrosafe lost all power and went to generators for the morning
- Metrosafe is a separate agency that has separate management and does not fall under police or fire agency. Responsible for all communications including procurement of radios, maintenance and interoperability.
- Lots of dignitary protection needed



Memorial Day Weekend Miami Beach

Began 11 years ago as a total surprise to the city

Organized on the "underground"; No permits applied for/issued

Involved Parties: Multiple agencies from several counties;
Tribal involvement

Challenges:

- Takes small island city from 90,000 to 400,000+;
- Limited vehicle access and parking on and off the island
- High security alert – observers went nowhere without a police officer or two



11 day music festival; 11 stages for 12 hours each day; Big Fireworks Show most nights; Cross section of music and no coordination of fan interests (Kool and The Gang played on the Harley Davidson Stage)

Challenges:

- Much like PIR, it's a unique process to blend disparate systems:
 - » Milwaukee PD is on Open Sky radio system
 - » Fire is on legacy system.
 - » Private security handles most of interior and PD handles exterior
 - » Private ambulance, fire department and red cross handle medical.
- Building (main parking structure for the event) collapsed about 1 hour before grand opening, immediately across the street from the event.

City has mandated certain steps be taken to ensure private company ensures adequate public safety



Observation re: Fire Services

Trunked systems in the fire service

- Varied throughout the cities observed
- Some were on Encrypted and trunked, while others had remained on VHF.
- Areas that were on trunked did not complain, areas that had not switched had plans to do so but were apprehensive

Challenge remains for areas that have urban interface. Many carrying two radios to work with federal and state fire.



4th of July DC

Fireworks launched from the reflection pool; Backdrop is the US Capitol and Washington Monument

Involved Parties: Multiple jurisdictions. Many Federal agencies; US Park service was in command but did not have jurisdiction over all areas of event.

Set-up - Unified Command, with separate locations; Large radio cache utilized.

Challenges:

- Excessive heat warning and high humidity
- Crowds - 2 million people rode the subway to the event
- Information on a very need to know basis

Use of ELO positions – Very Effective:

- Every agency provides ELOs including some who are not involved in the event
- ELO provides eyes on support and liaison between agencies. Not all sworn staff
- ELOs can rapidly deploy in a plain clothes environment to provide immediate feedback to command



MLB All Star Game

Large multi day event; parade; Coming to Phoenix in 2011

Fan experience; Dignitaries; Proximity to Disneyland.

Trunked radio system for Anaheim. Fire is analog, PD is digital encrypted

Neighboring fire agencies on VHF. Fire carries two radios on truck

CLEMARS - monitored by all dispatch centers. Triband system like AIRS

GATEWAYS - only one ACU1000 in the county. No other gateways used; established direct communications path with hotels throughout the event

Private BLS Medical crew inside stadium - called 911 if they needed ALS which came as a normal response from a fire station near the stadium.



Observations

Each area had various strengths and weaknesses.

Mix of trunked radio systems, and conventional systems

Very little reliance on gateways in most regions.
Used only as a last option.

Observations came from a variety of mechanisms including informal conversations with agency representatives.

Found that in many regions, state and county agencies were more involved in the event and interfaced with the UASI more.

COM-L

- COM-L positions are still a relatively new way of doing business.
- Some areas far more advanced in COM-L than others
- Rotation of COM-L through region for events

TICPs

- Most TIC-Ps were in some form of update / revision.

Cache Radios

- Color coded for easy recovery after deployment
- Identical programming in all cache radios
- Standards set for model and type of cache radios

Federal Interop Channels (VTAC, UTAC, 8TAC)

- Used in several cities in conjunction with or in place of normal operating channels



Lessons Learned

State/Area Mutual Aid Channels

- Monitored 24/7
- FIN and SLERS in Florida, CLEMARS in California.
- One city is on a single trunked system, but has a gateway to connect non-trunked traffic into their mutual aid channels
- Fire Chiefs' Association used as a clearing house for all interoperable asset deployments.

Encryption

- Not used in most cities with exception of SWAT, and some plain clothes operations.
 - » Some exceptions did exist, however agencies stated they were not sure how long it would last because of public “outcry” and “media relations”.



Key Challenges Identified

- Lack of familiarization with Incident Command System forms
- Lack of familiarization with creating an Incident Action Plan
- Lack of ICS 217 forms in region
- Frequency/Channel limitations
- Inadequate Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans
- Use of 10-Codes or Coded Substitutions instead of plain language
- Reluctance to establish Unified Command
- Lack of acceptance of NECP goals as a way of doing business
- Span of Control



NECP Goal 1 Results

OEC is producing a report that will be presented to Congress

Arizona performed well but there is still much work to be done.

Questions / Discussion
Thank you.